



Carnes Group

-We Do What It Takes To Get The Job Done-



Information Worker Solutions
Networking Infrastructure Solutions
Advanced Infrastructure Solutions

View on the web at <http://www.carnesgroup.com/news.html>

March 2010

Newsletter

Vol. 4 Issue 03

Technology News - Windows XP and 7 Migrations, Product Support Updates and more

WINDOWS XP USERS SHOULD MAKE PLANS TO MIGRATE TO WINDOWS 7 THIS YEAR

Microsoft is making it hard to say no to Windows 7. Windows 7 already has "compatibility" modes, where you can choose to run a program just like it would run under (for example) XP SP2 or XP SP3. For those few stubborn programs that still won't run, Microsoft provides a FREE (yes free!) download that will run the program in "Virtual Windows XP" environment. You won't really know it, but they actually give you a full Virtual PC image with Windows XP and make it look like a normal program running. Many of the more powerful PC's running Windows XP today will also run Windows 7 with not issues. There is no upgrade path, you have to start from a scratch installation though. At Carnes Group we loaded Windows 7 on our existing laptops and desktops and have had ZERO issues.

END OF SUPPORT FOR WINDOWS XP SP2, WINDOWS 2000, AND WINDWOS VISTA RTM

Microsoft support for Windows XP SP2 and Windows 2000 will end July 13, 2010 and support for the Windows Vista RTM will end April 13, 2010. It is time to make the switch to Windows 7. Windows 7 does have compatibility modes to allow you to run programs designed for these platforms. We can help you determine what you need to do, give us a call.

MICROSOFT BIG EASY ENDS MAR 31

Through the Big Easy Offer, for every qualifying product you purchase, Microsoft pays you partner subsidy funds that can be used with a Microsoft Partner of your choice to help with the implementation of your Microsoft solution including software, hardware and services. This applies to NEW License Agreements only. For more info see <http://www.microsoftincentives.com/BigEasy4/Default.aspx>

SBS 2003 USERS - TIME TO PLAN FOR A TECHNOLOGY REFRESH AND MIGRATION !!!

With Windows Server 2008, SQL Server 2008 and Exchange Server 2010, Microsoft is driving innovation. **However this also means older products get less and less time for maintenance and updates.** If you are a one-server shop on SBS 2003, you are at risk and MUST start planning to upgrade. A one server solution with a 9 year old operating system is a BIG risk. Can you afford several days of downtime if your server dies? (hopefully your backups are good AND current!).

MICROSOFT DISCONTINUES ESSENTAIL BUSINESS SERVER AS OF JUNE 30

You have heard us mention Windows Essential Business Server (EBS) that much because we feel it is a niche product that doesn't really fit our corporate strategy; however, it is widely used. Windows EBS 2008 bundled versions of Windows Server, Microsoft System Center Essentials, Microsoft Exchange, and other programs into one package priced to appeal to small and medium-sized businesses with 300 computers or less. Windows Small Business Server (SBS) 2008 is poised at markets of 75 or less. Microsoft has decide that this market might better be served by a mixture of "on-premise" (you have your own servers) and "cloud computing" (you are leasing computing somewhere outside your office). Microsoft will offer technical support for current EBS users for five years.

Beating a Dead horse - "Social" networking sites at work

We have often stated that unless necessary to your business or industry, we strongly urge you to NOT allow social networking to Facebook, MySpace, Twitter and other sites on a corporate network. These sites are a terrible source of fake emails containing viruses, some of which can wipe out a PC. These sites are what my friend Darwin calls "time vampires", slowing draining your time away before you know it! If you do need to use these sites for your business, don't use your corporate email! Use a Live, hotmail or GMAIL account - protect your corporate email from fake emails and viruses!

Question of the Month: Virus and Trojan Horses

Q: I run antivirus software - how did I get this infection?!

A: Antivirus software works based on (hopefully) constantly updated rules. There are characteristics of those programs considered as viruses. On the other hand those called "Trojan Horse" programs might not have the "classis" feel of a virus. A Trojan could be a program that is doing some non-destructive purpose - such as logging your keystrokes for example. If you allow a program to run, sometimes the antivirus doesn't intervene. ALWAYS know what you are clicking!

Carnes Group Information

Carnes Group
Your Single Source for
Technology Services AND
Products!

We focus on your
technology needs while you focus
on growing your business.

CONTACT US TODAY!
Phone: 615.778.8804 ext. 100
Email: info4me@carnesgroup.com
Visit our website at
<http://www.carnesgroup.com>

